

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested. Editorial revisions have been made in claim 22. Independent claim 37 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, as has non-elected claim 38. New claim 39 includes features of pending claim 22, and includes further features as supported at pages 4, 13 and 22 of the specification. The previous dependent claims have been revised to depend from new claim 39, with any redundant dependent claims canceled or revised to depend from claim 22. New claims 40-57 provide a set of dependent claims for claim 22. Claims 40-41 are supported at pages 24 to 25 of the specification. Claims 42-57 track previous dependent claims.

The June 16, 2005 Office Action included rejections for unpatentability based on Toyosawa, Shimizu, Giez, and Imashiro. Claim 22 was not subjected to any of these rejections. Therefore the rejections are rendered moot. Applicants are not conceding the correctness of the rejections. New claim 39 includes features tracking those of claim 22 and likewise would not be subject to the rejections.

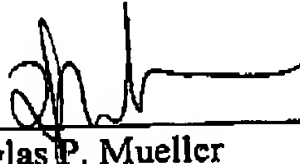
Favorable reconsideration in the form of a Notice of Allowance is requested.



Respectfully submitted,

HAMRE, SCHUMANN, MUELLER & LARSON, P.C.
P.O. Box 2902-0902
Minneapolis, MN 55402
(612)455-3800

Dated: December 16, 2005

By 
Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No. 30,300

DPM:gmd:hjm